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Morey B. Wildes Esq.,
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1st June 1993
NM/BMM/31542

Dear Morey,

Continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 07/767 157
Fabriques de Tabac Reunies SA
Your Ref: FTR 0110 - Our File: 31542

Thank you for your letter dated 21st March 1993 (21st May 1993?).

The only comment I have upon the preliminary amendment is that it specifies that "...smoke flow through said axial tube is gradually impeded by particulate matter deposited in said tube such that....". I believe that the particulate matter is in fact deposited in the filter material surrounding the tube adjacent each hole, rather than in the tube itself. I have not taken this point up with the inventors, and so I cannot be absolutely certain, but that is certainly how the action of the filter of US 4 942 887 was initially explained to me. It seems likely to me that there would be some deposition in the tube itself, but I believe it is the deposition in the filter material which is principally responsible for the progressive blocking of the hole.

Neither Jack Mandiratta nor I noticed this possible inconsistency in your first draft preliminary amendment, and I do not imagine that it is of particular consequence. Nevertheless, minor amendment of claim 1 might be desirable at a convenient stage.

I look forward to receiving the filing details of the continuation application in due course.

Yours sincerely,

N. Marlow

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